

Health Providers and Treatment Readiness: Who can help, and how?



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What do clients need to prepare for ART?

- To be clinically assessed for eligibility
- To understand what ART is, how it works (basics)
- To understand the daily and long-term commitment
- To be able to make that commitment
- To have support at home
- To have a safe place to store medications
- To understand when to take each medication
- To have a plan for taking meds around eating and activity schedules
- To know what side effects to expect
- To understand how to cope with common side effects
- To know which effects should be reported to a health provider
- The logistical and financial ability to get to the ART facility regularly

Knowledge and skills required for basic client orientation to ART

- Basic understanding of ART
- Ability to describe ART in terms relevant to client
- Ability to help clients understand the commitment required for ART
- Understanding of basic criteria and how the local programme / service works

Knowledge and skills for client assessment

- Understanding of clinical criteria
- Ability to interpret clinical data and conduct physical assessment
- Ability to assess psychosocial dynamics that might require intervention prior to ART
- Ability to assess other existing conditions and medications that will affect ART

Knowledge and skills for planning ART routine with client

- Understanding of what needs to be in place at home
- Ability to coach client and support person in planning and problem-solving
- Understanding of typical daily routines for most common regimen(s)
- Understanding of how food interacts with each med; common routines
- Ability to problem-solve logistics, transport, etc

Knowledge and skills for adherence and side effect management

- Knowledge of serious side effects
- Ability to describe when to report side effects to health care worker
- Ability to describe coping strategies
- Understanding of deterrents to adherence
- Ability to explain importance of adherence
- Ability to coach for adherence

Potential role players in a rural, peri-urban model:

Home-based care volunteers

Supervisors of HBC volunteers

Clinic-based lay counselors

Clinic-based Nurses (enrolled, professional)

Health Centre-based HIV nurses

Pharmacy Assistant

Hospital ward sisters and sessional doctors

HIV Specialist Nurses

Pharmacist

GP Sessional Doctors w/ ARV orientation

ARV Specialist Doctors

Overlapping Roles

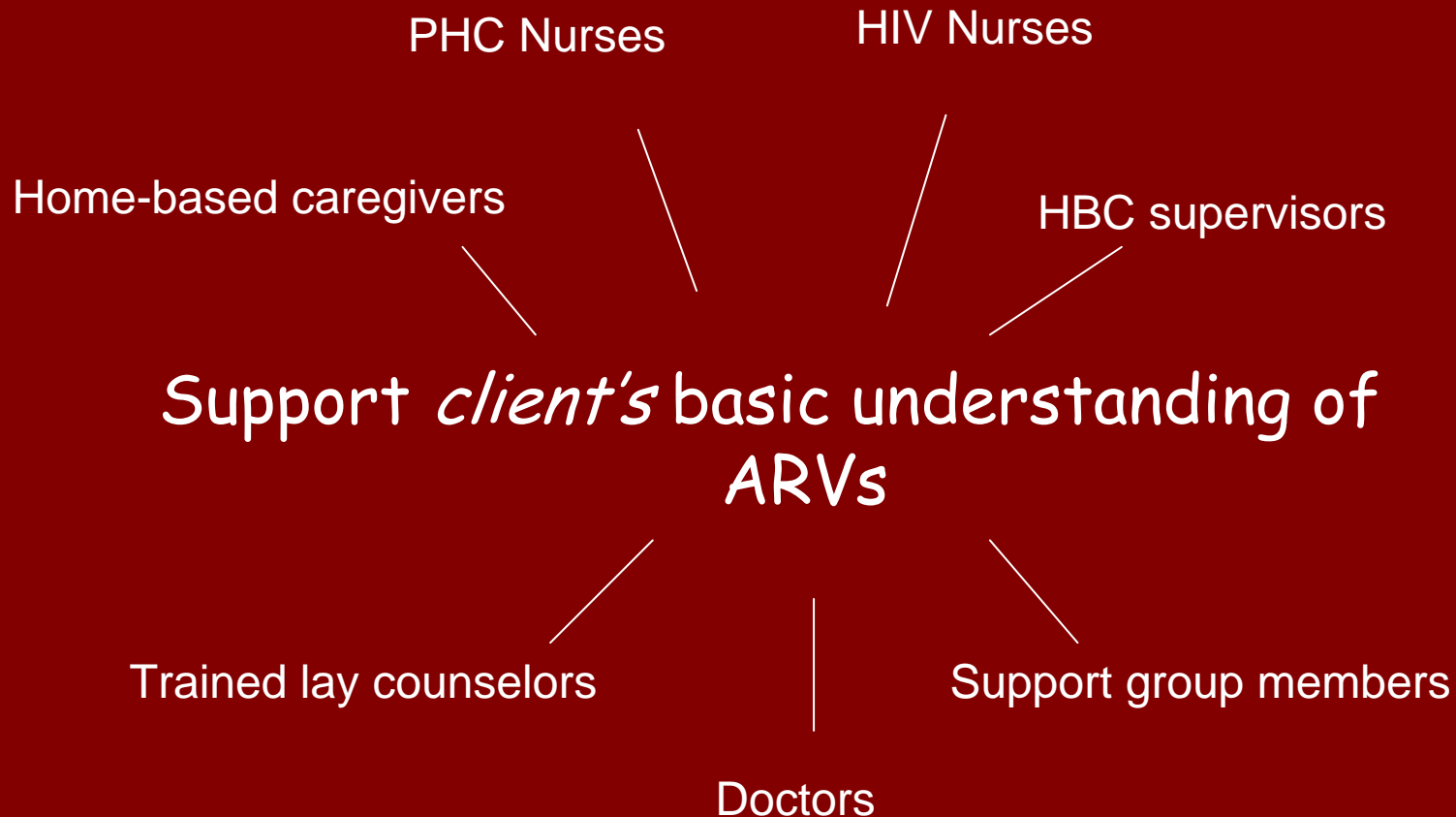
Home-based caregivers

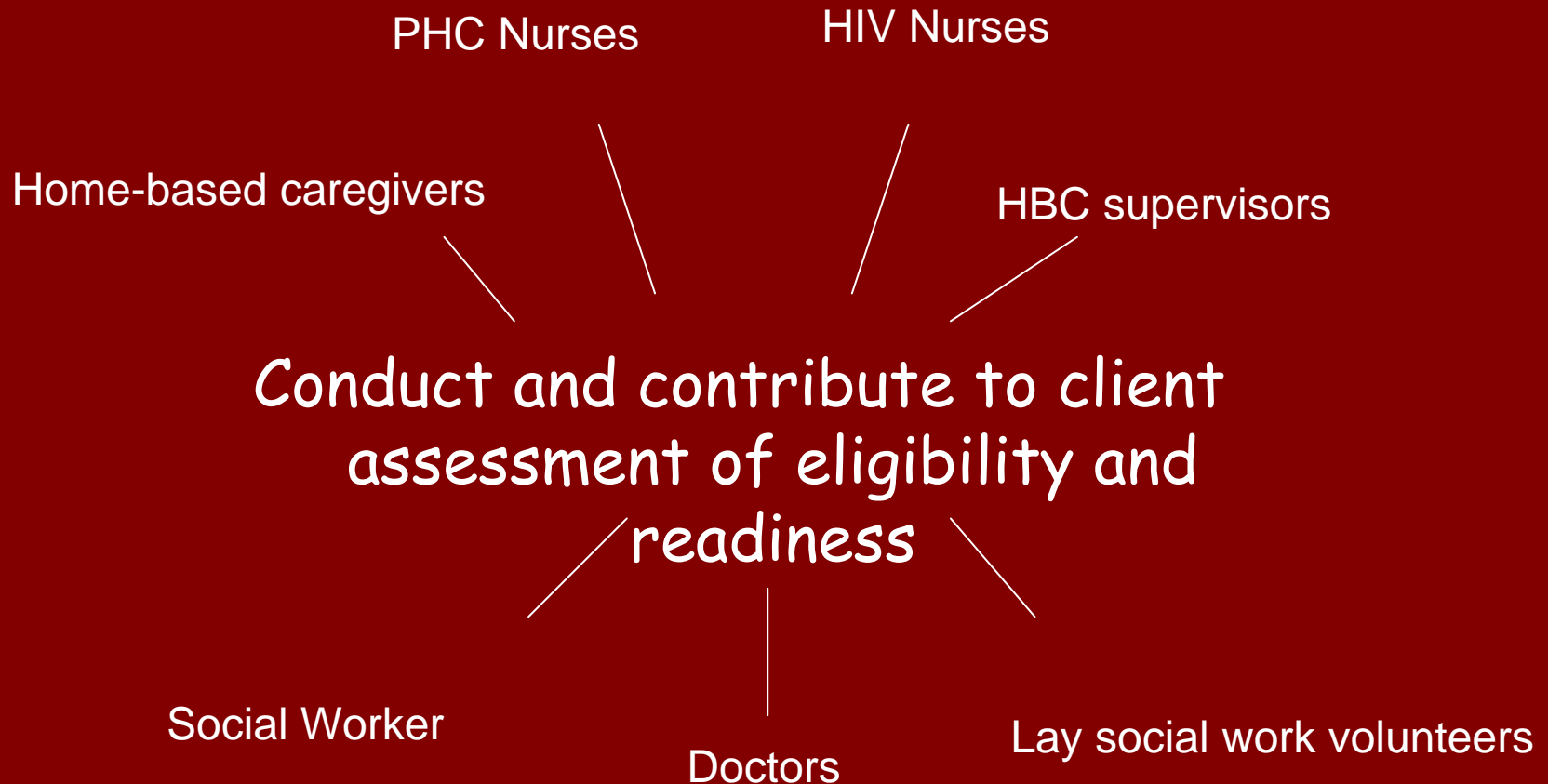
HBC supervisors

Initiate a basic understanding of ARVs
at *community* level

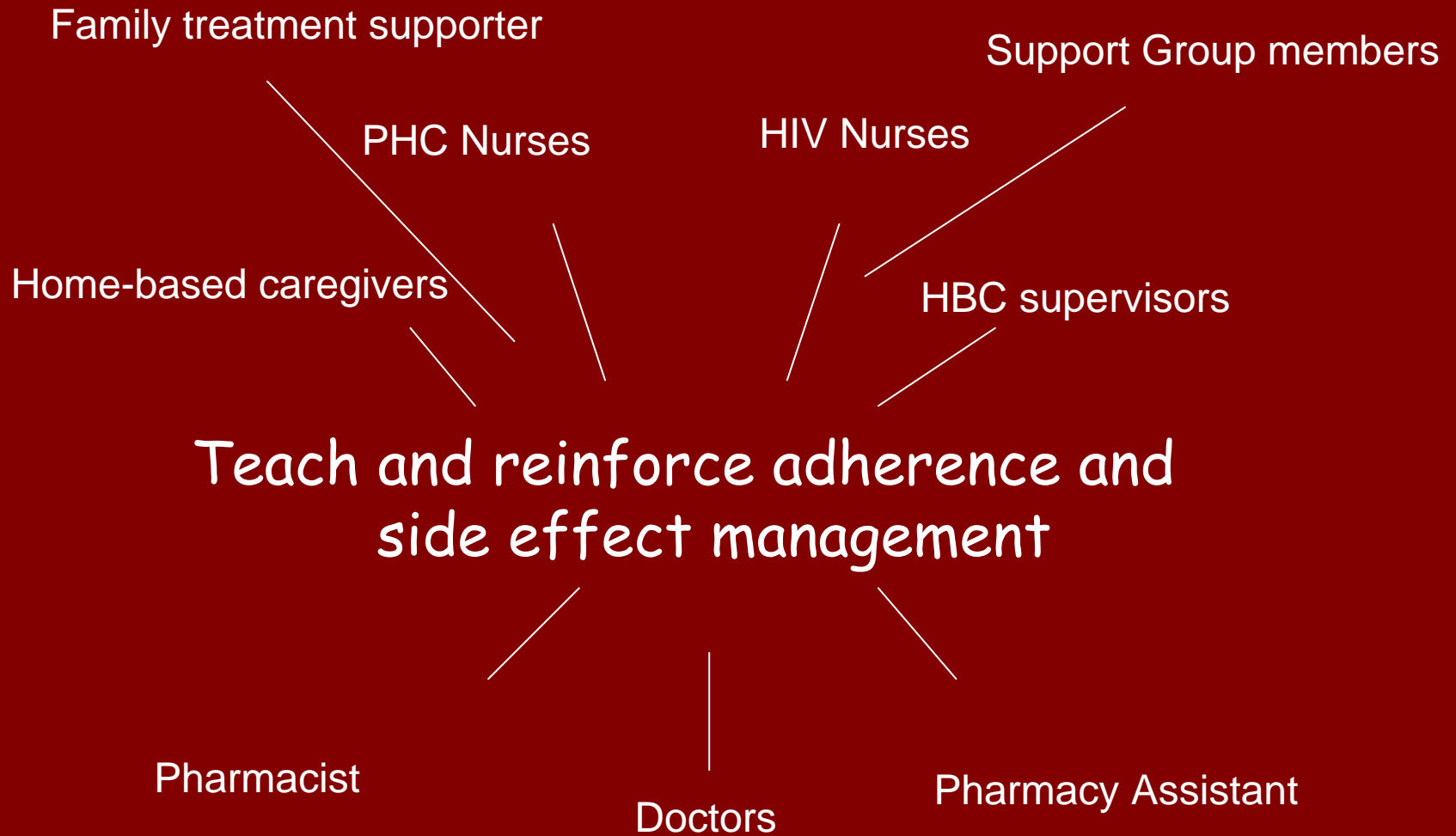
Trained outreach volunteers

Support group members









A view of expanded roles

- Basic information and understanding
- Clinical skills
- Psycho-social assessment
- Practical coaching and problem-solving

Capacity Building – Outside the classroom

- Guides and protocols
- Job aides – checklists, assessment tools, basic information
- On-the-job training technical briefs
- Team meetings
- Client case reviews

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